Properties of collective flow and pion production in intermediate-energy heavy-ion collisions with a relativistic quantum molecular dynamics model*

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The relativistic mean-field approach was implemented in the Lanzhou quantum molecular dynamics transport model (LQMD.RMF). Using the LQMD.RMF, the properties of collective flow and pion production were investigated systematically for nuclear reactions with various isospin asymmetries. The directed and elliptic flows of the LQMD.RMF are able to describe the experimental data of STAR Collaboration. The directed flow difference between free neutrons and protons was associated with the stiffness of the symmetry energy, that is, a softer symmetry energy led to a larger flow difference. For various collision energies, the ratio between the π^- and π^+ yields increased with a decrease in the slope parameter of the symmetry energy. When the collision energy was 270 MeV/nucleon, the single ratio of the pion transverse momentum spectra also increased with decreasing slope parameter of the symmetry energy in both nearly symmetric and neutron-rich systems. However, it remained difficult to determine the dependence of the double ratio on the stiffness of the symmetry energy.

Keywords: Heavy-ion collision, Collective flow, Pion production, Symmetry energy, Relativistic mean field

I. INTRODUCTION

The equation of state (EOS) of nuclear matter, which orig-3 inates from the interactions between nuclear matter, plays an 4 important role in nuclear physics and astrophysics. Heavy-5 ion collisions, the properties of nuclei, and neutron stars 6 (NSs) have been widely studied to extract the nuclear EOS. 7 Because nuclear many-body problems are highly nonlinear 8 and the EOS is not a directly observable quantity in experi-9 ments, there are still some uncertainties in the EOS despite 10 great efforts [1–6]. For instance, the EOS extracted from 11 the GW170817 event has uncertainties at high nuclear den-12 sities [2]. Although the EOS can be extracted from the prop-13 erties of NSs, the internal composition of NSs is still poorly 14 understood. The core of an NS may contain exotic mate-15 rials such as hyperons, kaons, pions, and deconfined quark ¹⁶ matter [7–12]. Heavy-ion collisions in terrestrial laboratories 17 provide a unique opportunity to study both the EOS and exotic materials.

Collective flows of heavy-ion collisions were proposed in the 1970s and first detected in experiments at Bevalac [13–16]. Because collective flows are associated with nucleon-nucleon interactions, nucleon-nucleon scattering, etc., collective flows have been used to extract the nuclear EOS [1]. Collective flows are also helpful for understanding the phase transition between hadronic and quark matter. Generally, when a phase transition between hadronic and quark matter occurs, the collective flows of heavy-ion collisions indicate a soft EOS [17–21]. In addition, the ratios of the isospin particles in heavy-ion collisions, such as π^-/π^+ , K^0/K^+ , and Σ^-/Σ^+ , are thought to be sensitive to the stiffness of the EOS [22–28]. The production of pions and kaons has been experimentally measured in Σ^{-1}/Σ^{-1} and collisions. The Σ^{-1}/Σ^{-1} production predicted by various transport models favors a

 34 soft EOS of isospin-symmetric nuclear matter at high baryon 35 densities [29–33]. The π^-/π^+ ratio predicted by various 36 transport models is still model-dependent [34–37]. Based 37 on the FOPI data for the π^-/π^+ ratio [38], some results fa- 38 vor a stiff symmetry energy (isospin asymmetric part of the EOS) [34, 35], whereas others imply a soft symmetry energy [36, 37]. Recently, by analyzing the ratios of charged 41 pions in $^{132}{\rm Sn} + ^{124}{\rm Sn}, ^{112}{\rm Sn} + ^{124}{\rm Sn},$ and $^{108}{\rm Sn} + ^{112}{\rm Sn}$ collisions [39], a slope of the symmetry energy ranging from 42 42 to 117 MeV was suggested [40, 41]. The collective flows and ratios of charged pions are still worth studying to find the sources of the difference in various transport models and to extract information about the EOS from heavy-ion collisions.

Quantum molecular dynamics (QMD) is a popular trans-48 port model that has been developed into many versions 49 and used to successfully describe the properties of nu-50 clear matter, nuclei, mesons, and hyperons [33, 34, 42–55]. 51 In high-energy heavy-ion collisions, the relativistic effects 52 should be considered in QMD because they become signif-53 icant. The RQMD approach has been proposed for this pur-54 pose [42, 43]. Recently, relativistic mean field theory (RMF) was implemented in RQMD (RQMD.RMF) [44-46]. The RQMD.RMF has been successfully applied to investigate the 57 collective flows of hadrons [44–46]. In this study, we im-58 plemented RMF theory with isovector-vector and isovector-59 scalar fields in the Lanzhou quantum molecular dynamics 60 model (LQMD.RMF). The channels for the generation and 61 decay of resonances ($\Delta(1232)$, N*(1440), N*(1535), etc.), 62 hyperons, and mesons were included in the previous LQMD 63 model [33, 34, 47–50]. Using the LQMD.RMF, we explored 64 the relationship between the symmetry energy and the prop-65 erties of the collective flow and pion production.

The remainder of this paper is organized as follows. In For Sec. II, we briefly introduce the formulas and approaches used in this study. The formulas include RMF theory, the dispersion relation, and the production of pions. The results and discussion are presented in Sec. III. Finally, a summary is presented in Sec. IV.

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II. FORMALISM

A. Relativistic mean field approach

The RMF interaction is achieved by exchanging mesons. Scalar and vector mesons provide medium-range attraction and short-range repulsion between nucleons, respectively [56]. The nonlinear self-interaction of the σ meson is introduced to reduce the incompressibility of a reasonable domain [57]. To investigate the properties of symmetry energy, we also consider the isovector-vector ρ [58] and isovectorscalar δ mesons [59]. The Lagrangian density is expressed as [59, 60]

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$$\mathcal{L} = \bar{\psi} [\gamma_{\mu} (i\partial^{\mu} - g_{\omega}\omega^{\mu} - g_{\rho}\vec{\tau} \cdot \vec{b}^{\mu}) - (M_{N} - g_{\sigma}\sigma)$$
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$$-g_{\delta}\vec{\tau} \cdot \vec{\delta}] \psi + \frac{1}{2} (\partial_{\mu}\sigma\partial^{\mu}\sigma - m_{\sigma}^{2}\sigma^{2}) - \frac{1}{3}g_{2}\sigma^{3}$$
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$$-\frac{1}{4}g_{3}\sigma^{4} + \frac{1}{2}m_{\omega}^{2}\omega_{\mu}\omega^{\mu} - \frac{1}{4}F_{\mu\nu}F^{\mu\nu} + \frac{1}{2}m_{\rho}^{2}\vec{b}_{\mu}\vec{b}^{\mu}$$
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$$-\frac{1}{4}\vec{B}_{\mu\nu}\vec{B}^{\mu\nu} + \frac{1}{2}(\partial_{\mu}\vec{\delta} \cdot \partial^{\mu}\vec{\delta} - m_{\delta}^{2}\vec{\delta}^{2}), \tag{1}$$

where $M_N=938$ MeV is the nucleon mass in free space, g_i with $i=\sigma,\omega,\rho,\delta$ is the coupling constant between nucleons, m_i with $i=\sigma,\omega,\rho,\delta$ denotes the meson mass, g_2 and g_3 are the coupling constants for the nonlinear self-interaction of the σ meson, and $F_{\mu\nu}=\partial_\mu\omega_\nu-\partial_\nu\omega_\mu$ and $\vec{B}_{\mu\nu}=\partial_\mu\vec{b}_\nu-\partial_\nu\vec{b}_\mu$ are the strength tensors of the ω and ρ mesons, respectively. The equations of motion for the nucleon and meson are obtained from the Euler–Lagrange equations and are written as:

$$[i\gamma^{\mu}\partial_{\mu}-g_{\omega}\gamma^{0}\omega_{0}-g_{\rho}\gamma^{0}b_{0}\tau_{3}-(M_{N}-g_{\sigma}\sigma-g_{\delta}\tau_{3}\delta_{3})]\psi=0 \eqno(2)$$

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$$m_{\sigma}^2 \sigma + g_2 \sigma^2 + g_3 \sigma^3 = g_{\sigma} \bar{\psi} \psi = g_{\sigma} \rho_S \tag{3}$$

$$m_{\omega}^2 \omega_0 = g_{\omega} \bar{\psi} \gamma^0 \psi = g_{\omega} \rho \tag{4}$$

$$m_{\rho}^2 b_0 = g_{\rho} \bar{\psi} \gamma^0 \tau_3 \psi = g_{\rho} \rho_3, \tag{5}$$

$$m_{\delta}^2 \delta_3 = g_{\delta} \bar{\psi} \tau_3 \psi = g_{\delta} \rho_{S3}, \tag{6}$$

where ρ and ρ_S are the baryon and scalar densities, respectively, $\rho_3=\rho_p-\rho_n$ is the difference between the proton and neutron densities, and $\rho_{S3}=\rho_{Sp}-\rho_{Sn}$ is the difference between the proton and neutron scalar densities.

In the RMF approximation, the energy density is given by

$$\epsilon = \sum_{i=n,p} 2 \int_0^{p_F} \frac{d^3p}{(2\pi)^3} \sqrt{p^2 + M_i^{*2}} + \frac{1}{2} m_\sigma^2 \sigma^2 + \frac{1}{3} g_2 \sigma^3 + \frac{1}{4} g_3 \sigma^4 + \frac{1}{2} m_\omega^2 \omega_0^2 + \frac{1}{2} m_\rho^2 b_0^2 + \frac{1}{2} m_\delta^2 \delta_3^2, \tag{7}$$

where p_F denotes the nucleon Fermi momentum, and $M_i^* =$ 113 $M_N-g_\sigma\sigma\mp g_\delta\delta_3$ (— proton, + neutron) denotes the ef-114 fective nucleon mass. The isospin splitting of the effective 115 nucleon mass $M_n^{st}-M_p^{st}$ still has a large uncertainty at this 116 point. Analyses of nucleon-nucleus scattering data based on the optical model favor $M_n^* - M_p^* > 0$ [61, 62]. Calculations based on Brueckner theory [63–65] and density-dependent relativistic Hartree-Fock [66] also indicate $M_n^* - M_p^* > 0$. However, $M_n^* - M_p^* < 0$ is predicted by the transport model 121 for heavy-ion collisions [67, 68] and nonlinear RMF mod-122 els [59, 60, 69]. In addition, both $M_n^* - M_p^* < 0$ and $M_n^* - M_p^* > 0$ can be predicted by the point-coupling RMF 124 [69] and Skyrme and Gogny forces [70–76]. Because the Lagrangian density in this study is the same as that in Ref. [59] and [60] except for the parameter settings, as shown in Fig. 1, 127 the negative isospin splitting of the effective nucleon mass $M_n^* - M_p^* < 0$ is consistent with that in Ref. [59] and [60]. 129 In the nonlinear RMF model, the isospin splitting of the ef-130 fective nucleon mass is primarily determined by the coupling 131 strength of the δ meson. The large coupling strength of the $_{132}$ δ meson results in large isospin splitting of the effective nu-133 cleon mass. When the coupling strength of the δ meson is 134 zero (set1), there is no isospin splitting of the effective nu-135 cleon mass.

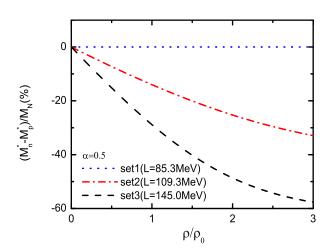


Fig. 1. (Color online) Difference between neutron and proton effective masses as a function of the baryon density.

Using the isospin asymmetry parameter $\alpha=(\rho_n-(6)_{139}\rho_p)/(\rho_n+\rho_p)$, the symmetry energy can be written as [59]

$$E_{sym} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2 E(\rho, \alpha)}{\partial \alpha^2} \Big|_{\alpha=0} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2 [\epsilon(\rho, \alpha)/\rho]}{\partial \alpha^2} \Big|_{\alpha=0}$$
$$= \frac{1}{6} \frac{p_F^2}{E_F^*} + \frac{1}{2} f_\rho \rho - \frac{f_\delta}{2} \frac{M^{*2} \rho}{E_F^{*2} [1 + f_\delta A(p_F, M^*)]}, (8)$$

where $f_i\equiv {g_i^2\over m_i^2}, i=\rho,\delta,$ and $E_F^*=\sqrt{p_F^2+M^{*2}}$ and $M^*=$ (7) $_{_{143}}M_N-g_\sigma\sigma$ are the effective nucleon masses of the symmetric

nuclear matter. The integral $A(p_F, M^*)$ is defined as

$$A(p_F, M^*) = \frac{4}{(2\pi)^3} \int d^3p \frac{p^2}{(p^2 + M^{*2})^{3/2}}$$

$$= 3(\frac{\rho_S}{M^*} - \frac{\rho}{E_F^*}). \tag{9}$$

Based on the symmetry energy E_{sym} , the slope L and curva-148 ture K_{sym} of the symmetry energy at the saturation density ρ_0 can be obtained as

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$$L = 3\rho_0(\frac{\partial E_{sym}}{\partial \rho})|_{\rho=\rho_0}$$
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$$K_{sym} = 9\rho_0^2(\frac{\partial^2 E_{sym}}{\partial \rho^2})|_{\rho=\rho_0}. \tag{10}$$

In this study, we set the saturation density to ρ_0 152 $153 \ 0.16 fm^{-3}$, and the binding energy per particle of the symmetric nuclear matter was set to $E/A-M_N=-16$ MeV. For 155 symmetric nuclear matter, we set set1, set2, and set3 models 156 to be the same as the result of vanishing isospin asymme-157 try. As shown in Table 1 and Fig. 2, the symmetry energy 158 of set1, set2, and set3 was set to be 31.6 MeV at the satu-159 ration density. Set1 contained only ρ mesons; however, set2 and set3 contained both the ρ and δ mesons. For set1, when 195 dimensions. the symmetry energy was set to be 31.6 MeV at the saturation density, the coupling parameter $g_{
ho}$ was fixed and the slope of symmetry was fixed at L=85.3 MeV. For set2 and set3, when the symmetry energy was fixed at 31.6 MeV, the slope 165 of the symmetry energy was obtained by varying the coupling parameters g_o and g_δ . Because the effective mass M^* of the above models for symmetric nuclear matter was the same, the 168 symmetry energy with both the ρ and δ mesons could not be softer than that of set1 containing only ρ mesons. To broaden 170 the range of the slope parameters, we set the slope parame-171 ter of set2 and set3 to be 109.3 and 145.0 MeV by varying the coupling parameters g_{ρ} and g_{δ} , respectively. A broader 173 range of slope parameters would be helpful for understanding 174 the relationship between the properties of symmetry energy 175 and the observables of heavy-ion collisions. The curvature of the symmetry energy K_{sym} , which is a higher-order expan-177 sion coefficient of the symmetry energy compared to the slope parameter L, may also affect the properties of the symmetry 179 energy and the observables of heavy-ion collisions at densi-180 ties far beyond the saturation density. K_{sym} of set1, set2, and 208 181 set3 is obtained as -15, 141, and 391 MeV, respectively.

Relativistic quantum molecular dynamics approach

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To investigate high-energy heavy-ion collisions, RQMD was proposed [42, 43]. Recently, RMF was implemented in 185 RQMD [44–46]. In RQMD, for an N-body system, there are 4N position coordinates q_i^μ and 4N momentum coordinates p_i^μ (i=1,...,N). However, the physical trajectories 213 tonian of the N-body system was constructed as a linear com-188 $(\vec{q_i} \text{ and } \vec{p_i})$ are 6N for an N-body system. 2N constraints 214 bination of 2N-1 constraints [77, 79, 80]: are required to reduce the number of dimensions from 8N to 190 physical trajectories 6*N* [42–46, 77–79].

$$\phi_i \approx 0 (i = 1, ..., 2N),$$
 (11)

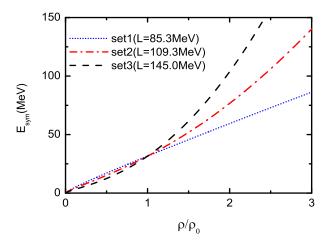


Fig. 2. (Color online) Symmetry energy as a function of the baryon density.

where 2N constraints satisfy the physical 6N phase space. 193 The sign \approx indicates Dirac's weak equality. The on-mass shell conditions can reduce the phase space from 8N to 7N

$$\phi_i \equiv p_i^{*2} - M_i^{*2} = (p_i - V_i)^2 - (M_N - S_i)^2 = 0, (12)$$

where i = 1, ..., N. The remaining N constraints are time fix-198 ation constraints. A simple choice of time fixation constraints that obey the worldline condition is written as [43, 77, 79, 80]

$$\phi_{i+N} \equiv \hat{a} \cdot (q_i - q_N) = 0, (i = 1, ..., N - 1),$$

$$\phi_{2N} \equiv \hat{a} \cdot q_N - \tau = 0,$$
(13)

where $\hat{a}=(1,\vec{0})$ denotes a four-dimensional unit-vector [42– ²⁰³ 46, 77]. In a two-body center-of-mass system, \hat{a} is defined as 204 $p_{ij}^{\mu}/\sqrt{p_{ij}^2}$ with $p_{ij}^{\mu}=p_i^{\mu}+p_j^{\mu}$. We observe that only the constraint i=2N depends on τ . With the above 2N constraints, 206 the number of dimensions from 8N will reduce to 6N. These 2N constraints are conserved over time.

$$\frac{d\phi_i}{d\tau} = \frac{\partial\phi_i}{\partial\tau} + \sum_{k}^{2N} C_{ik}^{-1} \lambda_k = 0.$$
 (14)

209 Because only the constraint i=2N depends on τ,λ is writ-210 ten as[77]

$$\lambda_i = -C_{2N,i} \frac{\partial \phi_{2N}}{\partial \tau}, (i = 1, ..., 2N - 1),$$
 (15)

$$H = \sum_{i=1}^{2N-1} \lambda_i(\tau)\phi_i,\tag{16}$$

Table 1. Parameter sets for RMF. The saturation density ρ_0 is set to 0.16 fm^{-3} . The binding energy of the saturation density is $E/A-M_N=-16$ MeV. The isoscalar-vector ω and isovector-vector ρ masses are fixed at their physical values, $m_\omega=783$ MeV and $m_\rho=763$ MeV, respectively. The remaining meson masses, m_σ and m_δ , are set to be 550 and 500 MeV, respectively.

model	g_{σ}	g_{ω}	$g_2(fm^{-1})$	g_3	$g_{ ho}$	g_{δ}	K (MeV)	$E_{sym}(\rho_0)$ (MeV)	$L(\rho_0)(\text{MeV})$	$M^*(\rho_0)/M_N$	K _{sym} (MeV)
set1	8.145	7.570	31.820	28.100	4.049	-	230	31.6	85.3	0.81	-15
set2	8.145	7.570	31.820	28.100	8.673	5.347	230	31.6	109.3	0.81	141
set3	8.145	7.570	31.820	28.100	11.768	7.752	230	31.6	145.0	0.81	391

Assuming $[\phi_i, \phi_j] = 0$, $\lambda_i = 0$ for N+1 < i < 2N [77]. 245 Because the difference between the numerical results ob-217 The equations of motion are then obtained as

$$\frac{dq_i}{d\tau} = [H, q_i] = \sum_{i=1}^{N} \lambda_i \frac{\partial \phi_i}{\partial p_i},$$

$$\frac{dp_i}{d\tau} = [H, p_i] = -\sum_{i}^{N} \lambda_j \frac{\partial \phi_j}{\partial q_i}, \tag{17}$$

with the on-mass shell conditions (Eq. (12)) as inputs, the equations of motion can be obtained as

$$\dot{\vec{r}}_{i} = \frac{\vec{p}_{i}^{*}}{p_{i}^{*0}} + \sum_{i=1}^{N} \left(\frac{M_{j}^{*}}{p_{j}^{*0}} \frac{\partial M_{j}^{*}}{\partial \vec{p}_{i}} + z_{j}^{*\mu} \cdot \frac{\partial V_{j\mu}}{\partial \vec{p}_{i}}\right),$$

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$$\dot{\vec{p}}_{i} = -\sum_{i=1}^{N} \left(\frac{M_{j}^{*}}{p_{j}^{*0}} \frac{\partial M_{j}^{*}}{\partial \vec{r_{i}}} + z_{j}^{*\mu} \cdot \frac{\partial V_{j\mu}}{\partial \vec{r_{i}}} \right), \tag{18}$$

where $z_i^{*\mu}=p_i^{*\mu}/p_i^{*0}$ and $M_i^*=M_N-S_i$. The scalar potential S_i and vector potential $V_{i\mu}$ in RQMD are defined as

$$S_i = g_\sigma \sigma_i + g_\delta t_i \delta_i,$$

$$V_{i,\mu} = B_i g_\omega \omega_{i,\mu} + B_i t_i g_\rho b_{i,\mu},$$
 (19)

where $t_i=1$ for protons, and $t_i=-1$ for neutrons, and B_i is the baryon number of the ith particle. The meson field can be obtained from the RMF:

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$$m_{\sigma}^{2}\sigma_{i} + g_{2}\sigma_{i}^{2} + g_{3}\sigma_{i}^{3} = g_{\sigma}\rho_{S,i},$$
232 $m_{\omega}^{2}\omega_{i}^{\mu} = g_{\omega}J_{i}^{\mu},$
233 $m_{\delta}^{2}\delta_{i} = g_{\delta}(\rho_{Sp,i} - \rho_{Sn,i}) = g_{\delta}\rho_{S3,i},$
234 $m_{\sigma}^{2}b_{i}^{\mu} = g_{\sigma}(\rho_{p,i} - \rho_{p,i}) = g_{\sigma}R_{i}^{\mu}.$ (20)

Substituting Eq. (20) into Eq. (19), the scalar potential S_i and vector potential $V_{i\mu}$ of the nucleons can be obtained. For other hadrons, such as Δ resonances, similar to other transport models [34, 85], the Δ optical potential is estimated using the nucleon potentials and square of the Cleb-240 sch—Gordan coefficient. In the RQMD approach, the scalar density, isovector-scalar density, baryon current, and isovetor baryon current are expressed as

$$\rho_{S,i} = \sum_{j \neq i} \frac{M_j}{p_j^0} \rho_{ij}, \qquad \rho_{S3,i} = \sum_{j \neq i} t_j \frac{M_j}{p_j^0} \rho_{ij},$$

$$J_i^{\mu} = \sum_{j \neq i} B_j \frac{p_j^{\mu}}{p_j^0} \rho_{ij}, \quad R_i^{\mu} = \sum_{j \neq i} t_j B_j \frac{p_j^{\mu}}{p_j^0} \rho_{ij}. \tag{21}$$

[77]. 245 Because the difference between the numerical results ob246 tained using the effective mass M_j^* and kinetic momentum
247 $p_j^{\mu*}$ in the density and current and those obtained using a
248 free mass $M_j = M_N = 938$ MeV and canonical mo249 mentum p_j^{μ} in the density and current is small, a free mass
250 $M_j = M_N = 938$ MeV and canonical momentum p_j^{μ} have
251 been used in the above density and current [45]. The interac252 tion density ρ_{ij} is given by a Gaussian

$$\rho_{ij} = \frac{\gamma_{ij}}{(4\pi L_G)^{3/2}} \exp(\frac{q_{T,ij}^2}{4L_G}),\tag{22}$$

where $q_{T,ij}^2=q_{ij}^2-[\frac{q_{ij,\sigma}(p_i^\sigma+p_j^\sigma)}{\sqrt{(p_i+p_j)^2}}]^2$ is a distance squared [77], and γ_{ij} is a Lorentz factor that ensures the correct normalization of the Gaussian [81] and is equal to $(p_i^0+p_j^0)/(p_i+p_j)$ in the two-body center-of-mass frame. In this study, we set the Gaussian width to $L_G=2.0fm^2$.

C. Dispersion relation and production of pions

The Hamiltonian of the mesons is defined as [48, 82–84]

$$H_M = \sum_{i=1}^{N_M} [V_i^C + \omega(\vec{p}_i, \rho_i)], \tag{23}$$

where ${\cal V}_i^C$ is the Coulomb potential, which is expressed as

$$V_i^C = \sum_{j=1}^{N_B} \frac{e_i e_j}{r_{ij}},$$
 (24)

 $_{\rm 264}$ and N_M and N_B are the total numbers of mesons and $_{\rm 265}$ baryons, including charged resonances, respectively. The $_{\rm 266}$ pion potential in the medium, which contains isoscalar and $_{\rm 267}$ isovector contributions, is defined as

$$\omega(\vec{p}_i, \rho_i) = \omega_{isoscalar}(\vec{p}_i, \rho_i) + C_{\pi} \tau_z \alpha(\rho/\rho_0)^{\gamma_{\pi}}, \quad (25)$$

where α denotes the isospin asymmetry parameter, the coefficient C_{π} is 36 MeV, the isospin quantity τ is 1, 0, and -1 for τ is 1, τ , and τ , respectively, and τ determines the isospin splitting of the pion potential and is set to two. In this study, the isoscalar part of pion potential $\omega_{isoscalar}$ was chosen as the Δ -hole model. The pion potential, which contains a pion branch (smaller value) and Δ -hole (larger value) branch, is defined as

$$\omega_{isoscalar}(\vec{p_i}, \rho_i) = S_{\pi}(\vec{p_i}, \rho_i) \omega_{\pi - like}(\vec{p_i}, \rho_i) + S_{\Lambda}(\vec{p_i}, \rho_i) \omega_{\Lambda - like}(\vec{p_i}, \rho_i). \tag{26}$$

280 following equation:

$$S_{\pi}(\vec{p_i}, \rho_i) + S_{\Delta}(\vec{p_i}, \rho_i) = 1.$$
 (27)

The probability of both the pion and Δ -hole branches is de-283 fined as [84]

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$$S(\vec{p_i}, \rho_i) = \frac{1}{1 - \partial \Pi(\omega) / \partial \omega^2}, \tag{28}$$

where ω denotes $\omega_{\pi-like}$ and $\omega_{\Delta-like}$. The eigenvalues of 286 $\omega_{\pi-like}$ and $\omega_{\Delta-like}$ are generated from the pion dispersion 287 relation

$$\omega^2 = \bar{p}_i^2 + m_\pi^2 + \Pi(\omega), \tag{29}$$

where Π denotes the pion self-energy. Including the short-²⁹⁰ range Δ -hole interaction, the pion self-energy is defined as

$$\Pi = \frac{\vec{p}_i^2 \chi}{1 - a' \chi},\tag{30}$$

where m_{π} denotes pion mass. The Migdal parameter, g', was 293 set to 0.6. χ is defined as

$$\chi = -\frac{8}{9} \left(\frac{f_{\Delta}}{m_{\pi}}\right)^2 \frac{\omega_{\Delta} \rho \hbar^3}{\omega_{\Delta}^2 - \omega^2} \exp(-2\vec{p}_i^2/b^2), \tag{31}$$

cutoff factor b was $7m_{\pi}$. 297

Both the Coulomb and pion potentials contribute to the de-²⁹⁹ cay of resonances and the reabsorption of pions. For instance, ³⁴⁹ ergies is $\sqrt{s_{in}} - \sqrt{s_{th}} = E_1^* + \Sigma_1^0 + E_2^* + \Sigma_2^0 - m_3^* - \frac{1}{2}$ the energy balance of Δ^0 in the decay of resonances and the ³⁵⁰ $\Sigma_3^0 - m_4^* - \Sigma_4^0$ [86]. The difference between the incident and 301 reabsorption of pions can be written as

$$\sqrt{m_R^2 + \vec{p}_R^2} = \sqrt{M_N^2 + (\vec{p}_R - \vec{p}_\pi)^2} + \omega_\pi(\vec{p}_\pi, \rho) + V_\pi^C,$$
303 (32)

where \vec{p}_R and \vec{p}_{π} are the momenta of the resonances and pions, respectively, and m_B is the mass of the resonances. Because Δ^0 is uncharged, the Coulomb potential exists only for 307 charged particles after the decay of Δ^0 .

The pion is generated from direct nucleon-nucleon collision and decay of the resonances $\Delta(1232)$ and $N^*(1440)$. 310 The reaction channels of the resonances and pions, which 311 are the same as those in the LQMD model, are as fol-312 lows [33, 48, 88, 89]:

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$$NN \leftrightarrow N\Delta$$
, $NN \leftrightarrow NN^*$, $NN \leftrightarrow \Delta\Delta$, $\Delta \leftrightarrow N\pi$,
314 $N^* \leftrightarrow N\pi$, $NN \to NN\pi(s-state)$. (33)

For the production of the $\Delta(1232)$ and $N^*(1440)$ resonances 316 in nucleon-nucleon scattering, the parameterized cross-317 sections calculated using the one-boson exchange model were 318 employed [91].

The decay width of $\Delta(1232)$ and $N^*(1440)$, which orig-320 inates from the p-wave resonances, is momentum-dependent 321 and is expressed as [91]

$$\Gamma(|\vec{p}|) = \frac{a_1 |\vec{p}|^3}{(1 + a_2 |\vec{p}|^2)(a_3 + |\vec{p}|^2)} \Gamma_0, \tag{34}$$

²⁷⁹ The probabilities of the pion and Δ -hole branches satisfy the ³²³ where $|\vec{p}|$ is the momentum of the created pion (in GeV/c). The parameters a_1 , a_2 , and a_3 were taken as 22.48 (17.22) $_{325}$ $c/{\rm GeV},~39.69~(39.69)c^2/{\rm GeV^2},~{\rm and}~0.04(0.09)~{\rm GeV^2/c^2},$ respectively, for $\Delta(N^*)$. The bare decay width of $\Delta(N^*)$ was given by $\Gamma_0 = 0.12(0.2) \text{GeV}$. With the momentum-328 dependent decay width, the cross-section of pion-nucleon 329 scattering has the Breit-Wigner form:

$$\sigma_{\pi N}(\sqrt{s}) = \sigma_{\text{max}}(\frac{\vec{p}_m}{\vec{p}})^2 \frac{0.25\Gamma^2(\vec{p})}{0.25\Gamma^2(\vec{p}) + (\sqrt{s} - m_0)^2}, (35)$$

where \vec{p} and \vec{p}_m are the three momenta of the pions at energies of \sqrt{s} and m_0 , respectively. The maximum cross-section 333 $\sigma_{
m max}$ of Δ and N^* resonances was obtained by fitting the 334 total cross-sections of the experimental data in pion-nucleon scattering using the Breit–Wigner formula [92]. For instance, 336 the maximum cross-section $\sigma_{\rm max}$ of Δ resonance was 200, respectively [89].

Note that the threshold effect was neglected in this 341 study. The threshold effect mainly refers to the Δ pro-342 duction threshold energy and incident energy of two col-343 liding nucleons modified by the medium. The inci-(31) 344 dent and threshold energies in the medium are defined 345 as $\sqrt{s_{in}} = \sqrt{(E_1^* + \Sigma_1^0 + E_2^* + \Sigma_2^0)^2 - (\vec{\Sigma}_1 + \vec{\Sigma}_2)^2}$ and where $\omega_{\Delta}=\sqrt{m_{\Delta}^2+\vec{p}_i^2}-M_N$ and m_{Δ} is the delta mass. 296 In this study, the $\pi N\Delta$ coupling constant f_{Δ} was 2, and the 346 $\sqrt{s_{th}}=\sqrt{(m_3^*+\Sigma_3^0+m_4^*+\Sigma_4^0)^2-(\vec{\Sigma}_3+\vec{\Sigma}_4)^2}$, respectively. tively [85–87]. Because $\vec{\Sigma}_i = 0$ and $\vec{p}_i^* \simeq 0$ for static nuclear

348 matter, the difference between the incident and threshold en-351 threshold energies, which is isospin dependent, may result in an enhancement in the $nn \to p\bar{\Delta}^-$ channel and suppression 353 of the $pp \to n\Delta^{++}$ channel.

III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

The directed and elliptic flows were derived from the 356 Fourier expansion of the azimuthal distribution:

$$\frac{dN}{d\phi}(y, p_T) = N_0[1 + 2V_1(y, p_T)\cos(\phi) + 2V_2(y, p_T)\cos(2\phi)],$$
(36)

where the azimuthal angle of the emitted particle ϕ was mea-313 $NN \leftrightarrow N\Delta$, $NN \leftrightarrow NN^*$, $NN \leftrightarrow \Delta\Delta$, $\Delta \leftrightarrow N\pi$, 360 sured from the reaction plane. $p_T = \sqrt{p_x^2 + p_y^2}$ denotes the $_{
m 361}$ transverse momentum, and the directed flow V_1 and elliptic $_{362}$ flow V_2 are expressed as follows:

$$V_1 \equiv <\cos(\phi)> = <\frac{p_x}{p_T}>,$$

$$V_2 \equiv <\cos(2\phi)> = <\frac{p_x^2 - p_y^2}{p_T^2}>.$$
(37)

The directed flow provides information on the azimuthal 366 anisotropy of the transverse emission. The elliptic flow de- $_{\mbox{\scriptsize 367}}$ scribes the competition between the in-plane $(\bar{V}_2>0)$ and out-of-plane ($V_2 < 0$) emissions.

Firstly, the collective flows of LQMD.RMF in the ¹⁹⁷Au + ¹⁹⁷ Au collisions have been investigated at an 371 incident energy of 2.92 GeV/nucleon (the corresponding ₃₇₂ nucleon-nucleon center-of-mass energy is $\sqrt{S_{NN}} = 3 \text{ GeV}$ 373). The collective flows of LQMD with Skyrme interaction and without the momentum-dependent interaction have also been 375 investigated. The Skyrme interaction of symmetric nuclear matter is taken to be the same as that of SLy6, with an incompressibility of K = 230 MeV at $\rho_0 = 0.16 fm^{-3} [93, 94]$. The symmetry energy of Skyrme interaction is defined as $E_{sym}=\frac{1}{3}\frac{\hbar^2}{2M_N}(\frac{3\pi^2\rho}{2})^{2/3}+\frac{C_{sym}}{3}(\rho/\rho_0)^{\gamma_s}$. When the C_{sym} and γ_s are set to be 38.6 MeV and 1.049, respectively, the symmetry energy and the slope parameter of symmetry energy are 31.6 MeV and 85.3 MeV, respectively. The symmetry energy and the slope parameter of symmetry energy of the 384 Skyrme interaction are as same as those of set1. As shown in 385 Fig.3, we have compared the collective flows of LQMD.RMF 386 and LQMD with Skyrme interaction with recent experimental data from STAR Collaboration[90]. The collective follows of LQMD.RMF and LQMD with Skyrme interaction can describe the STAR data at an impact parameter b=4 fm and b=7 390 fm, respectively. The directed flows of LQMD.RMF are almost consistent with the STAR data across the entire rapidity. However, The directed flows of LOMD with Skyrme interaction are weaker than the STAR data across the entire rapid-394 ity. This result may be due to the fact that the value of di-395 rected transverse momentum with the Lorentz effect is larger than that without the Lorentz effect[43]. The elliptic flows of both LQMD.RMF and LQMD with Skyrme interaction are consistent with the STAR data at rapidities smaller than 0.5. However, the elliptic flows of both LQMD.RMF and LQMD with Skyrme interaction are weaker than the STAR data at 401 large rapidity. At an incident energy of 2.92 GeV/nucleon, the 402 LQMD.RMF can better describe the experimental data com-403 pared to the LQMD with Skyrme interaction and without the 404 momentum-dependent interaction. Based on the above analyses, the RMF models have been implemented into the LQMD 408 model successfully.

an incident energy of 270 A MeV and an impact parameter 440 than that with a stiff symmetry energy. Interestingly, the stiff-411 b=3 fm. At an incident energy of 270 A MeV, the nuclear 441 ness of the symmetry energy can be reflected through the dif-412 matter of the collision center can be compressed to densi- 442 ference between the neutron and proton directed flows. The 413 ties approaching $2\rho_0$. In this dense region, collective flows, 443 relationship between the curvature of the symmetry energy which reflect nucleon-nucleon interactions, can be used to ex- $444~K_{sym}$ and the collective flows was then investigated. The tract the high-density behavior of the EOS [1, 44, 79, 88, 95]. 445 difference between K_{sym} of set1 and K_{sym} of set3 was 406 tractive flows of free protons in the $^{108}\mathrm{Sn} + ^{112}\mathrm{Sn}$ and 446 MeV, which was significantly larger than the 59.7 MeV difference between K_{sym} of set3 was 406 MeV, which was significantly larger than the 59.7 MeV difference between K_{sym} of set3 was 406 MeV, which was significantly larger than the 59.7 MeV difference between K_{sym} of set3 was 406 MeV, which was significantly larger than the 59.7 MeV difference between K_{sym} of set3 was 406 MeV, which was significantly larger than the 59.7 MeV difference between K_{sym} of set3 was 406 MeV, which was significantly larger than the 59.7 MeV difference between K_{sym} of set3 was 406 MeV, which was significantly larger than the 59.7 MeV difference between K_{sym} of set3 was 406 MeV, which was significantly larger than the 59.7 MeV difference between K_{sym} of set3 was 406 MeV, which was significantly larger than the 59.7 MeV difference between K_{sym} of set3 was 406 MeV, which was significantly larger than the 59.7 MeV difference between K_{sym} of set3 was 406 MeV, which was significantly larger than the 59.7 MeV difference between K_{sym} of set3 was 406 MeV, which was significantly larger than the 59.7 MeV difference between K_{sym} of set4 meV, which was significantly larger than the 59.7 MeV difference between K_{sym} of set4 meV, which was significantly larger than the 59.7 MeV difference between K_{sym} of set4 meV, which was significantly larger than the 59.7 MeV difference between K_{sym} of set4 meV, which was significantly larger than the 59.7 MeV difference between K_{sym} of set5 meV difference between K_{sym} of set6 meV difference between K_{sym} difference between K_{sym} difference between 132 Sn + 124 Sn collisions are shown in Fig. 4 and Fig. 5, re- 447 ence between L of set1 and L of set3. Although the curvature 418 spectively. It is reasonable that the maximum value of the 448 of the symmetry energy K_{sym} also affected the difference bedirected flow V_1 was significantly larger than that of the el- $\frac{1}{4}$ tween the neutron and proton directed flows, because the nu-420 liptic flow V_2 . In the same reaction system, the difference 450 clear matter of the collision center could only approach $2\rho_0$ at $_{421}$ in the directed flows with various slopes of symmetry energy $_{451}$ an incident energy of 270 A MeV, the effects of K_{sym} were 422 (set1, set2, and set3) was small. The difference in the ellip-452 not significant compared to the effects of the slope parameter 423 tic flows with various slopes of symmetry energy was also 453 L. small. To determine the relationship between the slope of the 454 425 symmetry energy and the collective flow, we must process the 455 exotic particles such as hyperons, kaons, and pions can also 428 collective flow data.

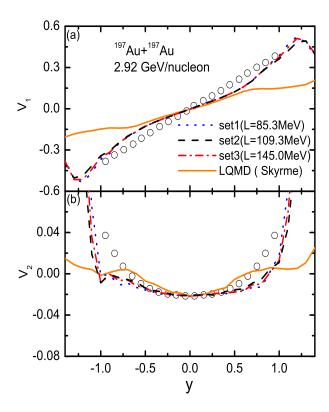


Fig. 3. (Color online) Rapidity distribution of the collective flows of free protons in the $^{197}{\rm Au}+^{197}{\rm Au}$ reaction at an incident energy of 2.92 GeV/nucleon. The open circles correspond to the STAR data[90].

431 be used to extract the density dependence of the symmetry 432 energy [88, 95]. The difference between the neutron and proton directed flows is defined as $V_{1n} - V_{1p}$, as shown in Fig. 6. 434 The trend and shape of the difference between the neutron and 435 proton directed flows were similar to those of nonrelativistic 436 LQMD [88]. For a given reaction system (nearly symmetric $^{108}\text{Sn} + ^{112}\text{Sn}$ system or neutron-rich $^{132}\text{Sn} + ^{124}\text{Sn}$ system), With this LQMD.RMF model, the $^{108}\mathrm{Sn}$ + 112 Sn and 438 the absolute value of the difference between the neutron and ¹³²Sn + ¹²⁴Sn collisions in this study were investigated at ⁴³⁹ proton directed flows with a soft symmetry energy was higher

In addition to collective flows, the production of isospin The difference between neutron and 456 be used to extract the symmetry energy [22–28]. Because the 430 proton directed flows emitted from heavy-ion collisions can 457 thresholds of hyperons and kaons were not reached at the in-

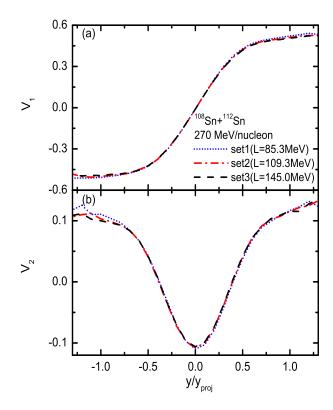


Fig. 4. (Color online) Rapidity distribution of the collective flows of free protons in the $^{108}{\rm Sn}$ + $^{112}{\rm Sn}$ reaction at an incident energy of 270 MeV/nucleon.

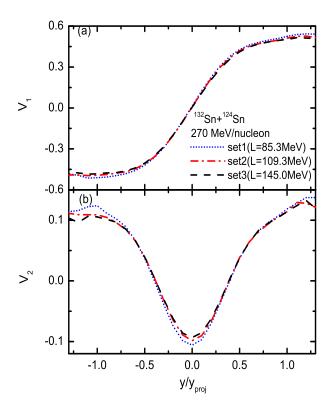


Fig. 5. (Color online) Rapidity distribution of the collective flows of free protons in the $^{132}{\rm Sn}$ + $^{124}{\rm Sn}$ reaction at an incident energy of 270 MeV/nucleon.

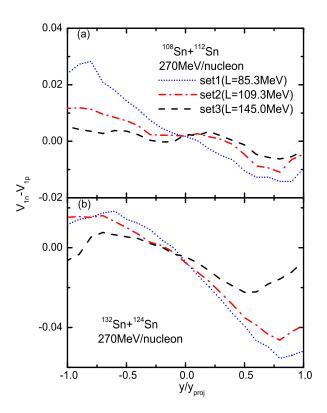


Fig. 6. (Color online) Difference between neutron and proton directed flows in the $^{108}{\rm Sn} + ^{112}{\rm Sn}$ and $^{132}{\rm Sn} + ^{124}{\rm Sn}$ reactions at an incident energy of 270 MeV/nucleon.

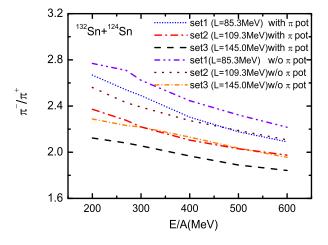


Fig. 7. (Color online) Ratio between the π^- and π^+ yields as a function of the incident energy in the $^{132}{\rm Sn} + ^{124}{\rm Sn}$ reaction.

 458 cident energies in this study, the isospin exotic particles were 459 pions. First, we calculated the ratio between the π^- and π^+ 460 yields of the neutron-rich $^{132}{\rm Sn}$ $+^{124}$ Sn system as a function of the collision energy at the impact parameter b=3 fm 462 and $\theta_{cm} < 90^{\circ}$. Because set1 had the softest symmetry energy, it had the highest neutron density. Consequently, there were more neutron-neutron scatterings in set1, resulting in the production of more Δ^- and π^- . As shown in Fig. 7, the 466 π^-/π^+ ratio of set1 was the highest, and the π^-/π^+ ratio

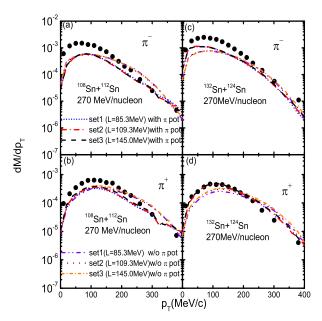


Fig. 8. (Color online) Transverse momentum spectra of pions as functions of transverse momentum at an incident energy of 270 MeV/nucleon. The left two panels [(a) and (b)] are the results of the $^{108}\mathrm{Sn}$ + 112 Sn reaction, and the right two panels [(c) and (d)] are the results of the $^{132}\mathrm{Sn} + ^{124}\mathrm{Sn}$ reaction. The full circles correspond to the S π RIT data [40].

467 of set2 was higher than that of set3. Specifically, at a colli-468 sion energy of 270 MeV/nucleon, the π^-/π^+ ratio without $_{\text{469}}$ (with) the π potential changed from 2.71 (2.54) to 2.23 (2.06) 470 when the slope parameter was varied from L=85.3 to 145.0 497 trons and a stronger attractive force to squeeze protons, re-471 MeV, that is, from set1 to set3. In other words, the π^-/π^+ 472 ratio as a function of collision energy depends on the stiff- 499 π^+ yield, respectively. As shown in panels (b) and (d) of arg ness of the symmetry energy. This result was consistent with 500 Fig. 8, the stiffer symmetry energy indeed led to larger trans-474 the predictions of most transport models [28, 39, 86]. When 501 verse momentum spectra for π^+ . However, the relationship the π potential was considered, the interaction between π and 502 between the transverse momentum spectra of π^- and the stiff-476 the nucleon became attractive, resulting in a decrease in both 503 ness of the symmetry energy could not be directly explained. 486 than that of set1. 487

the transverse momentum. As shown in Fig. 8, the left and 516 lower transverse momentum spectra of π^- may be due to the right panels are the transverse momentum spectra of pions 517 absence of a threshold effect. The threshold effect, which was for the nearly symmetric $^{108}{\rm Sn}$ + $^{112}{\rm Sn}$ and neutron rich 518 not considered in this study, may enhance the production of $^{132}{\rm Sn}$ + $^{124}{\rm Sn}$ reactions at $\theta_{cm} < 90^{\circ}$, respectively. In col- $^{519}{\pi}^-$ [85–87]. lisions between isotopes, π^+ is mainly generated from colli- 520 Because a stiffer symmetry energy would have a stronger 494 sions between protons and π^- is mainly generated from col-521 repulsive force to push out neutrons and a stronger attractive 495 lisions between neutrons. Theoretically, a stiffer symmetry 522 force to squeeze protons, resulting in a decrease in the π^-

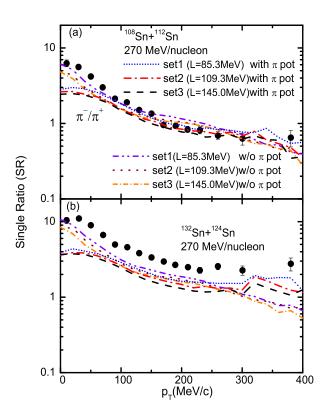


Fig. 9. (Color online) Single spectral ratios of pions as functions of transverse momentum for the $^{108}\mathrm{Sn} + ^{112}\mathrm{Sn}$ and $^{132}\mathrm{Sn} + ^{124}\mathrm{Sn}$ reactions at an incident energy of 270 MeV/nucleon. The full circles correspond to the $S\pi RIT$ data [40].

498 sulting in a decrease in the π^- yield and an increase in the and π^+ via the absorbed channels $\pi N \to \Delta(1232)$ and 504 Compared with the stiffness of the symmetry energy, the π $\Delta(1232)N \to NN$. However, with the π potential, because 505 potential had a more significant impact on the transverse mothere were more neutrons in the neutron-rich $^{132}\mathrm{Sn} + ^{124}\mathrm{Sn}$ so mentum spectrum of π . For the neutron-rich $^{132}\mathrm{Sn} + ^{124}\mathrm{Sn}$ system, π^- was more easily absorbed than π^+ . Consequently, 507 system, the transverse momentum spectra of both π^+ and $\pi^$ the π^-/π^+ ratio without the π potential was higher than that 508 without the π potential were lower than those of the $S\pi RIT$ with the π potential in the same RMF model. Moreover, it $_{509}$ data at $p_T\lesssim 200$ MeV. When the π potential was consider is worth mentioning that the threshold effect neglected in this $_{510}$ ered, the transverse momentum spectra of both π^+ and $\pi^$ study may cause the π^-/π^+ ratio to be reversed. In other 511 increased at $p_T \lesssim 200$ MeV but decreased at $p_T \gtrsim 200$ MeV. words, with the threshold effect [85–87], π^-/π^+ of set3 may 512 Consequently, the transverse momentum spectra of π^+ with be the highest, and the π^-/π^+ ratio of set2 may be higher 513 the π potential were almost consistent with the S π RIT data 514 [40]; however, the transverse momentum spectra of π^- were Next, the properties of π were predicted as a function of 515 still lower than the S π RIT data for the entire p_T domain. The

496 energy would have a stronger repulsive force to push out neu-523 yield and an increase in the π^+ yield, respectively, the single

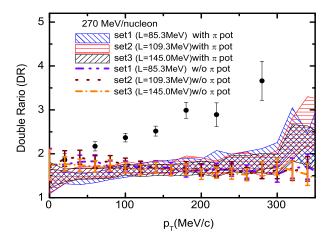


Fig. 10. (Color online) Double ratio of pions as a function of transverse momentum at an incident energy of 270 MeV/nucleon. The full circles correspond to the S π RIT data [40].

524 ratio $SR(\pi^-/\pi^+) = [dM(\pi^-)/dp_T]/[dM(\pi^+)/dp_T]$ may 525 depend on the stiffness of the symmetry energy and the reac-526 tion system. As shown in Fig. 9, for both the nearly symmet-527 ric system and neutron-rich system, a softer symmetry energy 528 led to a larger single ratio. In addition, for the same stiffness 529 of the symmetry energy, because the neutron-neutron scattering of the neutron-rich $^{132}{\rm Sn} + ^{124}{\rm Sn}$ system was greater than that of the nearly symmetric $^{108}{\rm Sn} + ^{112}{\rm Sn}$ system, the sin-532 gle ratio of the neutron-rich system was higher than that of $_{533}$ the nearly symmetric system. It is worth mentioning that the $_{534}$ single ratio of $^{108}\mathrm{Sn} + ^{112}\mathrm{Sn}$ was almost consistent with the $_{\rm 535}$ experimental data. However, the single ratio of $^{132}{\rm Sn} + ^{124}{\rm Sn}$ was lower than that of the experimental data for the entire p_T domain. This was because the transverse momentum spectra of $^{132}\mathrm{Sn} + ^{124}\mathrm{Sn}$ were lower than the experimental data.

and the nearly symmetric system $DR(\pi^-/\pi^+)$ 541 $SR(\pi^-/\pi^+)_{132+124}/SR(\pi^-/\pi^+)_{108+112}$, which 542 cancel out most of the systematic errors caused by Coulomb and isoscalar interactions, was suggested to extract the 596 fect. The threshold effect, which can enhance the production properties of the symmetry energy [40]. However, because $_{597}$ of π^- , could be a candidate for enhancing the single ratio of 545 a lower symmetry energy will lead to a larger single ratio for 598 the neutron-rich system to a double ratio. Moreover, because 546 both the nearly symmetric system and neutron-rich system, 599 a softer symmetry energy led to a larger single ratio for both 547 as shown in Fig. 10, it is still difficult to understand the 600 nearly symmetric and neutron-rich systems, the dependence dependence of the double ratio on the stiffness of symmetry 601 of the double ratio on the stiffness of the symmetry energy ₅₄₉ energy. In addition, the double ratio without the π potential ₆₀₂ was not significant. The sensitivity of the double ratio to the 550 decreased slightly as a function of the transverse momentum, 603 stiffness of the symmetry energy may also be due to the lack whereas it increased slightly as the transverse momentum 604 of a threshold effect. When the threshold effect is considered, $_{552}$ increased when the π potential was considered. However, the $_{605}$ the production of π^- in a neutron-rich system may be more 553 increasing trend was still considerably weaker than that of 606 significant than that in a nearly symmetric system. In the futhe experimental results. The lower double ratio originated 607 ture, when collective flows occur, and the single ratio of the from the lower single ratio of the neutron-rich $^{132}\mathrm{Sn} + ^{124}\mathrm{Sn}$ for neutron-rich system and the double ratio of the LQMD.RMF system compared with the experimental data. The threshold 609 are consistent with the experimental data, $V_{1n} - V_{1p}$ and the effect may enhance the production of π^- [85–87] and the 610 single ratio of the neutron-rich system π^-/π^+ , which are sen-558 single ratio of the neutron-rich system, resulting in a larger 611 sitive to the stiffness of the symmetry energy, may be used to 559 double ratio.

IV. CONCLUSION

An RMF with various symmetry energies, namely set1, set2, and set3, was implemented in LQMD. The collective flows of the nearly symmetric $^{108}\mathrm{Sn} + ^{112}\mathrm{Sn}$ and neutron- $_{564}$ rich $^{132}\mathrm{Sn} + ^{124}\mathrm{Sn}$ systems were successfully generated from 565 the LQMD.RMF. It has been observed that the directed flow V_1 was an order of magnitude larger than the elliptic flow 567 V_2 . However, the difference between the directed flows V_1 568 with various slopes of symmetry energy was small. The dif- $_{569}$ ference in the directed flows V_2 with various slopes of sym-570 metry energy was also small. To explore the relationship be-571 tween the collective flow and the stiffness of the symmetry 572 energy, we defined the difference between neutron and proton 573 directed flows $V_{1n} - V_{1p}$. For a given nearly symmetric sys-574 tem or neutron-rich system, the absolute value of $V_{1n}-V_{1p}$ 575 increased with decreasing slope of the symmetry energy.

We also investigated the relationship between isospin exotic particles and the stiffness of the symmetry energy. The 578 ratio between π^- yield and π^+ yield of the neutron-rich $^{132}\mathrm{Sn} + ^{124}\mathrm{Sn}$ system as a function of the collision energy 580 increased with a decrease in the slope parameter of the symmetry energy. At an incident energy of 270 MeV/nucleon, the properties of π were predicted as a function of the transverse $_{583}$ momentum. For the nearly symmetric $^{108}\mathrm{Sn} + ^{112}\mathrm{Sn}$ system, 584 the single ratio of the nearly symmetric system was consistent 585 with the experimental data. However, for the neutron-rich $^{132}\mathrm{Sn} + ^{124}\mathrm{Sn}$ system, the single ratio was lower than the 587 experimental data, resulting in a double ratio lower than the 588 experimental data. The π potential did not explain the lower 589 transverse momentum spectra of π^- in the neutron-rich sys-590 tem. Considering the π potential, the double ratio increased 591 slightly with increasing transverse momentum. However, the The double ratio between the neutron rich system 592 increasing trend was still considerably weaker than that ob-593 served in the experimental results. The single ratio of the can 594 neutron-rich system and the double ratio may be lower than 595 the experimental data because of the lack of a threshold ef-612 extract the slope parameter of the symmetry energy.

(A9)

Appendix A: DETAILS of EQUATION OF MOTION

For numerical calculations, the equation of motion (Eq. 631 615 (18)) must be written in the computed form. With Eq. (19) 616 and $M_i^st = M_i - S_i = M_N - S_i$ as the inputs, the equation of motion (Eq. (18)) can be expanded as

$$\vec{p} = -\sum_{i \neq j} \left[D_{ij} \frac{\partial \rho_{ij}}{\partial \vec{r_i}} + D_{ji} \frac{\partial \rho_{ji}}{\partial \vec{r_i}} \right], \tag{A2}$$

with

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$$D_{ij} = D_i f_j + A^{\mu}_{ij} z_{j\mu} + D'_i t_j f_j + A'^{\mu}_{ij} z_{j\mu}, \quad (A3)$$

$$D_i = -g_\sigma \frac{M_i^*}{p_i^{*0}} \frac{\partial \sigma_i}{\partial \rho_{Si}}, \tag{A4}$$

$$A_{ij}^{\mu} = \frac{g_{\omega}^2}{m^2} B_i B_j z_i^{*\mu},\tag{A5}$$

$$D_i' = -g_{\delta} t_i \frac{M_i^*}{p_i^{*0}} \frac{\partial \delta_i}{\partial \rho_{S3,i}}, \tag{A6}$$

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$$A_{ij}^{\prime\mu} = \frac{g_{\rho}^2}{m_{\rho}^2} t_i t_j B_i B_j z_i^{*\mu},\tag{A7}$$

where $z_i^\mu=p_i^\mu/p_i^0$ and $z_i^{*\mu}=p_i^{*\mu}/p_i^{*0}$. Based on Eq. (20), $\frac{\partial\sigma_i}{\partial\rho_{Si}}$ and $\frac{\partial\delta_i}{\partial\rho_{S3,i}}$ are obtained as follows:

$$\frac{\partial \sigma_i}{\partial \rho_{Si}} = \frac{g_{\sigma}}{m_{\sigma}^2 + 2g_2\sigma_i + 3g_3\sigma_i^2}, \quad \frac{\partial \delta_i}{\partial \rho_{S3,i}} = \frac{g_{\delta}}{m_{\delta}^2}$$
(A8)

In the two-body center-of-mass frame, ρ_{ij} equals ρ_{ji} . The squared distance $q_{T,ij}^2$ is reduced to $q_{T,ij}^2 \equiv -\vec{r}_{ij}^2 - \frac{(\vec{r}_{ij}\cdot\vec{p}_{ij})^2}{p_{ij}^2}$. in the actual calculation, we replace p_i^0 with $\sqrt{\vec{p}_i^2 + M_i^2}$ to save calculation time [79]. Thus, the partial derivative of den-

639 sity versus momentum and space can be written as $\frac{\partial \rho_{ij}}{\partial \vec{p}_i} = -\frac{\rho_{ij}}{2L} \frac{(\vec{r}_{ij} \cdot \vec{p}_{ij}) \cdot \vec{r}_{ij}}{p_{i,i}^2} + \rho_{ij} \frac{\gamma_{ij}^2 \beta_{ij}}{p_i^0 + p_i^0} [1 - \vec{\beta}_{ij} \frac{\vec{p}_i}{p_i^0}]$

$$\frac{\partial \rho_{ij}}{\partial \vec{r}_i} = -\frac{\rho_{ij}}{2L} [\vec{r}_{ij} + \frac{(\vec{r}_{ij} \cdot \vec{p}_{ij}) \cdot \vec{p}_{ij}}{p_{ij}^2}], \tag{A10}$$
644 where $\vec{\beta}_{ij}$ is defined as $(\vec{p}_i + \vec{p}_j)/(p_i^0 + p_j^0)$. In addition, $\frac{\partial f_i}{\partial \vec{p}_i}$

 $-\frac{\rho_{ij}}{2L}\frac{(\vec{r}_{ij}\cdot\vec{p}_{ij})^2}{p_{ij}^4}\{\vec{p}_{ij}-\frac{\vec{p}_i}{p_i^0}p_{ij}^0\},\,$

can be written as $-\frac{M_i \vec{p_i}}{p_0^3}$. The partial derivative of the energy

646 component of $\frac{\partial z_{i\mu}}{\partial \vec{p_i}}$ is zero and that of the momentum compo-

647 nent of $\frac{\partial z_{i\mu}}{\partial \vec{p_i}}$ is written as $\frac{-p_i^2}{p_i^{03}}$. Using the above equations, the (A6) 648 momentum and space of neutrons and protons are known.

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